

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 2015

RE: S.B. No. 791

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Health and Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.B. No. 791 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require health insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for autism diagnosis and treatment.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Autism Speaks; Autism Behavior Consulting Group, Inc.; Community Children's Council of Hawaii; Easter Seals Hawaii; Special Education Advisory Council; Kaiser Permanente Hawaii; Family Voices of Hawai'i; and several individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Health, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Autism Society of Hawaii, Hawaii Disability Rights Center, American Council of Life Insurers, Hawaii Medical Service Association, and Chamber of Commerce Hawaii.

Your Committees find that autism spectrum disorder treatments, including applied behavior analysis, are essential and have the potential to change the lives of children with autism. Your Committees further find that no child with autism in Hawaii should be denied proper treatment due solely to the cost of the treatment.



Your Committees have heard the testimony from several parties and individuals expressing concerns relating to age and cost coverage limitations and licensure procedures; therefore, your Committees request that your Committee on Ways and Means further examine these issues if it chooses to hear this measure.

Your Committees express their gratitude to the testifiers who shared their heartfelt testimonies on this measure and to the individuals and organizations who worked on this measure.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Commerce and Consumer Protection that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 791 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Health and
Commerce and Consumer
Protection,


ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair


JOSH GREEN, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Health
HTH

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 791	Committee Referral: HTH/CPN, WAM	Date: 2/6/15		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GREEN, Josh (C)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	✓			
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
RIVIERE, Gil				
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	✓			✓
SLOM, Sam			✓	
TOTAL	5	0	1	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

***Only one measure per Record of Votes**

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN

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